

FACT SHEET

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR 2 SOURCE CATEGORIES: WOOD FURNITURE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS; AND SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR (SURFACE COATING)

ACTION

- On December 3, 2010, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed changes to two air toxics standards covering two industrial source categories.
- The air toxics standards and source categories covered by this proposal are:
 - Wood Furniture Manufacturing Operations (Current standard issued 12/7/1995)
 - Shipbuilding and Ship Repair (Surface Coating) (Current standard issued 12/15/1995)
- This action proposes to:
 - Establish an emissions limit of 0.2 tons per year for formaldehyde for wood furniture manufacturing operations;
 - No longer allow the use of conventional spray guns at wood furniture manufacturing facilities. This will also help to further reduce HAP emissions and risks; and
 - Eliminate provisions related to emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction for both source categories.
- EPA conducted the following reviews for the two maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards listed above.

ANALYSIS OF AIR TOXIC STANDARDS

EPA conducted the following reviews for each of the standards included in the proposal:

- **Technology Reviews:** To determine if there have been advances in practices, processes or control technologies since EPA issued the standard.
- **Residual Risk Assessment:** To determine whether additional emission reductions are warranted to protect human health and the environment.

EPA also addressed:

- **Startup and Shutdown Provisions:** To address the District of Columbia Circuit Court's vacatur of the startup, shutdown, and malfunction provisions for air toxics standards.
- Corrections and Clarifications

Technology Reviews

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to review and revise air toxics standards, as necessary, taking into account developments in practices, processes, and control technologies since EPA issued the standards.

- The technology assessment identified cost-effective developments in practices, processes, or control technology for the Wood Furniture Manufacturing source category.
- Based on the technology assessment, EPA proposes to prohibit the use of conventional (low efficiency) spray guns for the wood furniture manufacturing source category, which will reduce toxic emissions.
 - Very few facilities still use conventional spray guns; the industry as a whole has moved to air-assisted airless spray equipment over the past several years. For the few facilities that still use the conventional guns, the proposed rule would essentially require these facilities to replace those guns with more efficient guns when the conventional guns wear out.
- The technology assessment did not identify any cost-effective developments in practices, processes, or control technology for the shipbuilding and ship repair (surface coating) operations.

Residual Risk Assessment

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to assess the risk remaining after application of the final air toxic standards. This is known as a residual risk assessment.
- The residual risk assessment includes the following analyses:
 - Estimates of individual source category risk.
 - Risk estimates from all air toxics emissions at a facility (“total facility risk”).
 - Analysis of air-toxics related risks across different social, demographic, and economic groups living near the facilities.
 - Risk estimates based on the actual emissions reported as emitted.
 - Risk estimates based on emissions allowed by the current air toxics standard.
- Results of the Residual Risk Assessment:
 - Based on the assessments, we conclude that both air toxics standards provide an acceptable risk.
 - The cancer risks for the two source categories are well below 100-in-1 million. Based on consideration of this risk, as well as other health risk considerations, EPA is proposing that the risks are acceptable.
 - However, there are cancer risks above 1-in-1 million for both categories and potential for non-cancer effects from the wood furniture manufacturing sector. Because of this, EPA investigated whether any cost-effective controls, practices, or processes could be implemented to lower the risks.
 - For this sector, we determined it is feasible for facilities to limit formaldehyde emissions by using low- or no-formaldehyde coatings for minimal extra costs. This would reduce cancer and non-cancer risks, providing additional public

health protection.

- Based on this determination, EPA proposes a limit of formaldehyde of 0.2 tons per year.
- This would require some facilities to choose lower formaldehyde containing coating. Most of the facilities that would be regulated by the rule already comply with the proposed standard. We estimate that fewer than 10 percent of facilities would need to make the proposed change. We believe facilities can switch to no- or low-formaldehyde coatings at little or no additional cost because the costs of both products are comparable.
- For shipbuilding and ship repair (coating operations) we did not identify any cost-effective controls, practices, or processes to lower the risks.

Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Provisions

- The proposed amendments would eliminate provisions related to emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction to ensure the standards are consistent with the District of Columbia Circuit Court's vacatur of similar provisions in other rules.

Corrections and Clarifications

- EPA is proposing to make minor clarifications to the language in the applicability provisions of the Wood Furniture MACT standard as it relates to three other wood-related MACT standards. This would address inconsistencies.
- EPA will take public comment on the proposed rule for 45 days following publication in the *Federal Register*.

BACKGROUND

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to regulate toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, from large industrial facilities in two phases.
- The first phase is "technology-based," where EPA develops standards for controlling the emissions of air toxics from sources in an industry group (or "source category"). These MACT standards are based on emissions levels that are already being achieved by the better-controlled and lower-emitting sources in an industry.
- Within eight years of setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act directs EPA to assess the remaining health risks from each source category to determine whether the MACT standards protect public health with an ample margin of safety, and protect against adverse environmental effects. This second phase is a "risk-based" approach called residual risk. EPA must determine whether more health-protective standards are necessary.
- Also, every eight years after setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act requires that EPA review and revise the standards, if necessary, to account for improvements in air pollution controls and/or prevention.

- The previously-issued air toxic standards for these 16 production processes are six of 96 air toxic standards (MACT) that require 174 industry sectors to eliminate 1.7 million tons of 187 toxic air pollutants. Congress listed these toxic air pollutants in the Clean Air Act.

HOW TO COMMENT

- EPA will accept comment on the proposal for 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Comments, identified by Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0786, may be submitted by one of the following methods:
 - www.regulations.gov: follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
 - E-mail: Comments may be sent by electronic mail (e-mail) to a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov.
 - Fax: Fax your comments to: (202) 566-9744.
 - Mail: Send your comments to: Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460.
 - Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver your comments to: EPA Docket Center, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 3334, Washington, DC 20004. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download the notice from EPA's web site at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html>.
- Today's proposed rule and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
 - The Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.
 - Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector, and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
 - Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0786.
- For further information, contact Kaye Whitfield of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards by phone at (919) 541-2509, or by e-mail at: whitfield.kaye@epa.gov.